

**OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS
RENDERED BY THE INTER-
NATIONAL COMMISSION ON
ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE**

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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OPINION 194

On the status of the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach,
1880 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea)

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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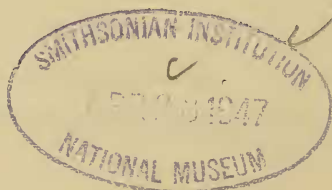
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OPINION 194.

ON THE STATUS OF THE NAME *OPHICERAS* GRIESBACH, 1880 (CLASS CEPHALOPODA, ORDER AMMONOIDEA).

SUMMARY.—Under suspension of the *Regles Internationales* (i) the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, is hereby suppressed for all nomenclatorial purposes and (ii) the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), is validated with *Ophiceras tibeticum* Griesbach, 1880, as type. The name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, so validated, is hereby added to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* as Name No. 625.

I.—THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

The case of *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea) together with the case of *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865 versus *Ophiceras* Suess, June 1865 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea), was submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by Dr. L. F. Spath, British Museum (Natural History), through Commissioner F. A. Bather in March 1929. The statement so submitted by Dr. Spath is as follows:—

Ophiceras was proposed by E. Suess in June 1865 (*Anz. Akad. Wiss. Wien* 2 (No. 17) : 112) for the "fimbriati" group of *Ammonites fimbriatus* Sowerby but was afterwards thought to clash with *Ophiceras* Barrande, May 1865 (*Syst. silur. centre Bohême Rech. pal.* 2 : Atl. fasc. 1 Explic. pl. 45) (= *Ophidioceras* Barrande, 1867, *ibid.* 2 (Text 1) : 174) and was replaced later in 1865 by *Lytoceras* Suess (*Sitz. Ber. Akad. Wiss. Wien* 52 (No. 1) : 78). This last has ever since been in universal use.

A second *Ophiceras* was proposed in 1880 by Griesbach (*Rev. geol. Surv. Ind.* 13 : 102, 109) for a Triassic group of ammonites, and, Suess's original *Ophiceras* being forgotten, has now become universally accepted.

The resuscitation of the original *Ophiceras* according to the rules of nomenclature would cause great palaeontological confusion. *Lytoceras* and the family LYTOCERATIDAE are now given in every textbook, *Lytoceras* being one of the two fundamental ammonite genera, persisting from the base of the Lias to the Upper Cretaceous. *Ophiceras*, also recorded in most textbooks, is Lower Triassic in age, so that from stratigraphical considerations also, it would be advisable to secure stabilisation of the present use of these two genera by the International Commission as follows:—

Genus *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865¹ (genotype : *Ammonites fimbriatus* Sowerby, 1817, *Min. Conchol.* 2 : 145 pl. 164)

Genus *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (genotype² : *Ophiceras tibeticum* Griesbach, 1880, *Rec. geol. Surv. Ind.* 13 : 109 pl. 3 (fig. 4)).

¹ See *Opinion* 130.

² In reply to an inquiry by Commissioner Francis Hemming, Secretary to the Commission, Dr. Spath furnished the following supplementary note, dated 27th October 1943:—

Griesbach described three species but did not specify a type. The selection of *O. tibeticum* is due to Diener (1897, "The Cephalopoda of the Lower Trias," *Mem. geol. Surv. Ind. Pal. indica* (ser. 15) (Himalayan Fossils) 2 (Pt. 1) : 101).

2. In his covering letter submitting the foregoing application to the Commission, Commissioner Bather said :—

I have gone into this case carefully and consider it to be eminently one where adherence to the rules would produce nothing but confusion. I therefore recommend as the *Opinion* of the Commission : That, to prevent confusion, the law of priority be suspended as regards *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865 (genotype, *Ammonites fimbriatus* Sowerby) and *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (genotype, *O. tibeticum* Griesbach) and that these two names be added to the *Official List of Generic Names*.

II.—THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE.

3. On receipt of the foregoing application, Dr. C. W. Stiles, Secretary to the International Commission, decided as a first step to consult certain specialists interested in this case either directly from the point of view of systematic zoology or indirectly from that of geological surveying. The replies in most cases covered not only the present case but also the case of *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, and *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865. The replies so received in respect of the last-named case are quoted in full in the *Opinion* relating to that case (*Opinion* 130), together with the replies which related both to that case and to the present case. So much as is necessary of the latter replies is quoted below, together with one communication which referred only to the present case :—

- (a) *Comment by Dr. W. C. Mendenhall, Acting Director of the U.S. Geological Survey, Washington, D.C., dated 2nd May 1929, containing the views of eight palaeontologists of the Geological Survey then in Washington.*

The proposition now before the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to suspend the law of priority in the case of two generic names of ammonites *Lytoceras* and *Ophiceras* has been considered by the palaeontologists of the Geological Survey now in Washington who are concerned with zoological names.

C. Wythe Cooke, George H. Girty, W. C. Mansfield, J. B. Reeside, jr., P. V. Roundy, T. W. Stanton and L. W. Stephenson state that they concur in the recommendation of Dr. F. A. Bather that the two names *Lytoceras* Suess and *Ophiceras* Griesbach should be added to the list of *nomina conservanda* under suspension of the law of priority.

Edwin Kirk joins in this recommendation so far as *Lytoceras* is concerned but thinks that the retention of Griesbach's *Ophiceras* would be unfortunate because Suess's prior use of that name has been noted by Marshall in 1873 and by subsequent bibliographers.

- (b) *Comment by Dr. Rudolf Richter,³ Senckenbergische Naturforschende Gesellschaft, Frankfurt a.M., dated 15th June 1929.*

Suspension der Regeln soll eine sehr seltene Ausnahme bleiben, weil die

³ Dr. Richter was elected a member of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in 1930.

häufigere Anwendung dieses Rechtes zu schlimmen Folgen für die Nomenklatur führen würde.

Im Falle von *Lytoceras* Suess und *Ophiceras* Griesbach ist aber *Suspension* das allein Richtige.

(c) *Comment by Dr. R. Spärck, Universitetets Zoologiske Museum, Copenhagen, dated 1st November 1929.*

I beg to inform you that I have looked through the cases of *Lytoceras* and *Ophiceras*. I absolutely recommend the proposition to suspend the rule of priority in the case of the two above mentioned generic names. Dr. Ravn, Head of the Department of Palaeontology, joins the recommendation so far as *Lytoceras* is concerned, but is of opinion that the retention of Griesbach's *Ophiceras* would be unfortunate.

(d) *Comment by Dr. Paul Bartsch, Curator of Mollusks and Cenozoic Invertebrates, dated 4th February 1930.*

While I do not favour exceptions to the law of priority, this case appears to be one in which abiding by the rules would produce greater confusion than the suspension thereof. I therefore favor Dr. Bather's opinion.

(e) *Comment by Dr. B. B. Woodward, London (undated).*

I am of opinion that *Lytoceras* should be placed with "nomina conservanda," but that *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, should not be accepted, Suess's earlier name having passed into literature.

4. The application in this case, together with the comments thereon quoted in paragraph 3 above, was communicated to the members of the Commission by Dr. Stiles in February 1931. In doing so, Dr. Stiles pointed out that there was unanimity among the experts consulted, so far as *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, was concerned, and that there was an overwhelming affirmative majority in favour of suspending the *Règles Internationales* for *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880. Accordingly, he recommended that the *Règles* should be suspended for both these names and that they should both be placed in the *Official List of Generic Names*, with the types indicated in the petition quoted in paragraph 1 above.

5. Shortly after the circulation to the members of the Commission of the document referred to above, Dr. Willward G. Van Name, American Museum of Natural History, New York, who had also been consulted by Dr. Stiles, replied as follows:—

I agree with the view expressed by Dr. Bather. The objection raised by Dr. Kirk regarding the retention of Griesbach's *Ophiceras* is a reasonable one but I consider that it is outweighed by other circumstances of the case and should not interfere with the retention of Griesbach's genus.

6. In August 1932 the possible suspension of the *Règles* in this case was duly advertised in the manner prescribed in proviso (a)

to Article 1 of the Plenary Powers Resolution ⁴ adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology in March 1913. In the period of twelve months following this advertisement, no communication of any kind was addressed to the International Commission objecting to the suspension of the *Règles* for *Ophiceras* Griesbach. On the other hand, immediately after the appearance of the advertisement in this case Dr. A. K. Miller, State University of Iowa, wrote to the Commission (on 12th July 1932) supporting the action proposed to be taken in this case. Dr. Miller stated:—

Recently, while studying nautiloid genera with similar names, I called attention to the fact that the generic name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, was a homonym of *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, and I proposed the name *Greisbachoceras* ⁵ for it and designated *Ophiceras tibeticum* Griesbach as the genotype (1932, *Univ. Iowa Studies Nat. Hist.* 14 (No. 4) : 16 *nota*). I was of course unaware that the case was about to be presented to the Commission, and I am writing you now to state that if it will serve the best interests of all concerned, I sincerely hope that my recently proposed generic name will be suppressed and Griesbach's name will be established.

7. In February 1935 Dr. Stiles reported to the Commission that twelve (12) Commissioners had recorded their votes on this case in response to the invitation contained in the document which in February 1931 he had circulated to the members of the Commission (paragraph 4 above). Nine (9) Commissioners (Apstein, Bather, Chapman, Horváth, Ishikawa, Pellegrin, Richter, Stephenson and Stiles) had voted in favour of the suspension of the *Règles* to preserve *Ophiceras* Griesbach; three (3) Commissioners had voted against that course. At the same time Dr. Stiles expressed the hope that the Commission would dispose of this case at their meeting due to be held at Lisbon later that year. In doing so, Dr. Stiles drew attention to the procedure prescribed by the International Congress of Zoology for dealing with cases involving proposals for the suspension of the *Règles* where it had been found impossible to secure a unanimous vote in the Commission on the action to be taken under the Plenary Powers Resolution (Article 2).

8. Prior to the opening of the Lisbon Session of the Commission, Commissioner Karl Jordan voted in favour of the suspension of

⁴ For the text of this Resolution, see *Declaration 5* (1943, *Opinions and Declarations rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature* 1 : 31-40).

⁵ When first published, this name through some inadvertence was printed as *Greisbachoceras*, but in view of the fact that this name was intended to commemorate the name of Griesbach, the author in 1880 of the name *Ophiceras*, the spelling intended was clearly *Griesbachoceras*. This emendation was published by Dr. L. F. Spath in 1934 (*Cat. foss. Ceph. Brit. Mus.* 4 : 72).

the *Règles* in this case, thereby bringing the voting to ten (10) in favour to three (3) against.

9. At the Lisbon Session of the Commission, the available documents relating to this case and to the related case of *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, were examined by Commissioner Francis Hemming, who, jointly with Commissioner James L. Peters, had been charged with the duty of acting as Secretary to the Commission during that Session, owing to the absence through ill-health of Dr. Stiles. The conclusions so reached by Commissioner Hemming are set out in the following note made in the records of the Commission:—

Of the 18 specialists who have expressed their view on the question whether the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, should be suppressed for the purpose of (i) validating its synonym *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, and (ii) validating its homonym *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, all have expressed themselves as being in favour of course (i); 15 of these specialists (United States 11; United Kingdom 2; Germany 1; and Denmark 1) were in favour also of course (ii), while 3 (United States 1; United Kingdom 1; and Denmark 1) hold the opposite view. Two of these specialists (United States 1; United Kingdom 1) give as the ground for their view the fact that the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, has been noted in Nomenclators (*e.g.* in Marshall, 1873, *Nomencl. zool.*: 130) and so have passed into the literature. The third (Danish) specialist merely states that, in his view, the suspension of the *Règles Internationales* in favour of *Ophiceras* Griesbach "would be unfortunate."

2. After studying carefully the evidence submitted in regard both to this case and to that of *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, and *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, I have come to the conclusion that the petitioner has established his case that the strict application of the *Règles* for these names would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity and accordingly that the proper course for the Commission to adopt is to use their plenary powers to suppress the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, thereby (a) validating the name *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, at present invalid as a synonym, and (b) validating *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, at present an invalid homonym.

3. The only argument brought forward against this course is not an argument directed to show that it would be reasonable and proper to suppress *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, for one purpose, while retaining it for another. It is an argument which, if valid, would render the suspension of the *Règles* to preserve *Lytoceras* Suess as unacceptable as the suspension of the *Règles* to preserve *Ophiceras* Griesbach, for the name *Ophiceras* Suess is as much, or as little, embodied in the literature for one purpose as for the other.

4. Quite apart from the effect which its application would have on the two cases under consideration, the argument advanced against the suspension of the *Règles* in this case, if accepted as a general principle (as would certainly be necessary), would have the effect of debarring the International Commission from exercising their plenary powers to suppress any name which, after publication, had appeared in a Nomenclator or Catalogue. This would amount to the virtual abandonment of the power to suppress names at all, since practically every name figures in one or more of the catalogues of the group concerned. The Commission have already given their answer to the general question here involved by unanimously agreeing during the present (Lisbon) Session to suppress a considerable number

of names in the Order Hymenoptera,⁶ all of which figure in the principal Nomenclators as well as in the catalogues of species of that Order. The only argument advanced against the grant of the petition in this case is, therefore, one which has already been rejected by the Commission.

5. I consider therefore that the present petition should be granted and, in view of the fact that some of the Commissioners who have cast negative votes are not present in Lisbon, I recommend that the Commission should invoke the special procedure prescribed in the second paragraph of the Plenary Powers Resolution.⁷

10. By the time, therefore, that on Tuesday, 17th September 1935, the Commission came to consider this case, fourteen (14) Commissioners had voted on it.

11. Eleven (11) Commissioners had voted in favour of the suspension of the *Règles* to preserve *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, namely:—

Apstein; Bather; Chapman; Hemming; Horváth; Ishikawa; Jordan; Pellegrin; Richter; Stephenson; and Stiles.

12. Three (3) Commissioners had voted against the suspension of the *Règles* in this case, namely:—

Cabrera; Silvestri; and Stone.

13. At the meeting referred to above, the Commission had under consideration this case, jointly with that of *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, and *Lytoceras* Suess, 1865, and after taking note of the voting in each of these cases (Lisbon Session, 4th Meeting, Conclusion 13)⁸:—

(b) agreed that the proper course as regards *Ophiceras* Griesbach was to proceed under Article 2⁹ of the Plenary Powers Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at Monaco in March 1913;

(c) agreed, in view of (b) above, to report the case of *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, to the President of the Section on Nomenclature of the present (Lisbon) Congress for action under the said Article 2 of the Resolution of March 1913.

14. This case was accordingly reported to the President of the Section on Nomenclature of the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology immediately after the meeting of the Commission referred to above.

15. Various causes, including the resignation of the Secretaryship of the Commission by Dr. Stiles and the consequent need for

⁶ See Official Record of the Proceedings of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, Lisbon Session, 3rd Meeting, Conclusion 2 (1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 27-30).

⁷ See footnote 4.

⁸ For the full text of this Conclusion, see 1943, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 1 : 39.

⁹ See footnote 4.

the establishment of the Secretariat of the Commission at new headquarters, combined to make it impossible to secure any further progress in this case before the outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939 put a temporary stop to the activities of the Commission. When, however, it was found possible in the spring of 1942 to arrange for the reopening of the Secretariat of the Commission, this case was reviewed jointly by the President of the Commission and the Secretary to the Commission, who agreed that, having regard to the length of time which this case had already been before the Commission, every effort should be made to secure the services of a former member of the Commission who had not expressed any public opinion on this case and thereby render possible the immediate appointment of the required Board of Three Members for the purpose of deciding the action to be taken in this case.

16. On being approached, Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell, a former member of the Commission who had expressed no public opinion on this case, consented to assist the Commission by serving as a member of the proposed Board of Three Members. Accordingly on 30th December 1942, Dr. Karl Jordan, President of the Section on Nomenclature of the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology, acting in virtue of the powers conferred upon him in this behalf by Article 2 of the Plenary Powers Resolution adopted by the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco on 31st March 1913, appointed a Board of Three Members composed as follows :—

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell | Former member of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, who had expressed no public opinion on the present case ; |
| Dr. Karl Jordan | A Commissioner who had voted in favour of the suspension of the <i>Règles Internationales</i> in this case ; and |
| Señor Dr. Angel Cabrera | A Commissioner who had voted against the suspension of the <i>Règles Internationales</i> in this case. |

17. The terms of reference given to the foregoing Board of Three Members were as follows :—

- (i) to review the evidence submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature for and against the suspension of the *Règles Internationales* in the case of the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880; and
- (ii) to report whether or not an *Opinion* should be rendered:—
 - (a) suspending the *Règles*:—
 - (1) to suppress the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, and
 - (2) to validate the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (type: *Ophiceras tibeticum* Griesbach, 1880) (Mollusca); and
 - (b) placing the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, so validated, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

18. The following reports on this case were received from the members of the Board of Three constituted by the President of the Twelfth International Congress of Zoology in the manner specified in paragraph 16 above:—

(1) *Report by the former Commissioner, Sir Peter Chalmers Mitchell (dated 13th November 1943):*

After having given careful consideration to the evidence and arguments adduced by the many specialists of whose opinion Commissioner Hemming has given me a clear summary, I report that an *Opinion* should be rendered (a) suspending the rules (i) to suppress the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, and (ii) to validate the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (type: *Ophiceras tibeticum* Griesbach, 1880) (Mollusca); and (b) placing the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, so validated, on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

(2) *Report by Commissioner Karl Jordan (dated 12th December 1943):*

The case of *Ophiceras* has been considered again by me and I see no argument which would change my vote given at Lisbon. I agree therefore that the rules be suspended, *Ophiceras* Suess be suppressed and *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880 (type: *O. tibeticum* Griesbach, 1880) be validated and placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

19. Under Article 2 of the Plenary Powers Resolution, a Report by a Board of Three Members set up under the procedure prescribed in that Resolution may be either unanimous or taken by an affirmative vote of any two of the members of such a Board. Accordingly, as from the date of receipt (14th December 1943) of the second of the two votes cast in favour of the suspension of the *Règles Internationales* for the purpose of validating the name

Ophiceràs Griesbach, 1880 (*i.e.* as from the date of receipt of Commissioner Jordan's vote), an effective decision had already been taken by the Board of Three Members in favour of that course. The present case was not, however, closed on that date, since the Secretary to the Commission judged it better to allow ample time for the receipt of the vote of the third Member of the Board, even though (for the reasons explained above) that vote could not in any circumstances alter the decision already taken by the Board. At that time, there was, owing to war conditions, great delay in postal communications between the United Kingdom (the seat of the Secretariat of the Commission) and Argentina (the place of residence of Commissioner Cabrera, the third Member of the Board). Accordingly, the Secretary to the Commission directed that this case should not be finally closed until after the expiry of a period of eighteen months calculated from 31st October 1943, the date on which the evidence relating to the present case was despatched to each of the Members of the Board. No reply was, however, received from Commissioner Cabrera during the foregoing period. On 1st May 1945, the day following the expiry of that period, this case was, therefore, reviewed by the Secretary to the Commission, who concluded that the communication addressed to Commissioner Cabrera must have been lost in the post owing to war conditions. At the same time, the Secretary to the Commission took note that under the procedure prescribed by the Plenary Powers Resolution a final decision had been reached in this case as far back as 14th December 1943, the date on which, by reason of Commissioner Jordan's vote, two votes in favour of the suspension of the *Règles Internationales* in the present case had been received in the Secretariat from Members of the Board of Three Members. Accordingly, on 1st May 1945, Commissioner Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting in virtue of the powers conferred upon him in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the Commission, closed the ballot in this case.

III.—THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE.

20. The decision taken by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in the present case is :—

- (a) under suspension of the *Règles Internationales* :—

- (i) to suppress for all nomenclatorial purposes the name *Ophiceras* Suess, 1865, *Anz. Akad. Wiss. Wien* 2 (No. 17) : 112 (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea); and
 - (ii) to validate the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880. *Rec. geol. Surv. Ind.* 13 : 102, 109 (type : *Ophiceras tibeticum* Griesbach, 1880, *Rec. geol. Surv. Ind.* 13 : 109 pl. 3 fig. 4) (Class Cephalopoda, Order Ammonoidea); and
- (b) to add the name *Ophiceras* Griesbach, 1880, validated as in (a) above and with the type there specified, to the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology*.

21. The foregoing decision was taken by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting through a Board of Three Members constituted in accordance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Plenary Powers Resolution of March 1913.¹⁰

22. The following two (2) members of the Board of Three Members voted in favour of the adoption of the present *Opinion* :— Mitchell; Jordan.

23. No member of the Board of Three Members voted against the present *Opinion*. No vote was received from Commissioner Cabrera, the third member of the Board.

IV.—AUTHORITY FOR THE ISSUE OF THE PRESENT OPINION.

WHEREAS the Ninth International Congress of Zoology at its meeting held at Monaco in March 1913, adopted a Resolution conferring upon the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, Plenary Powers to suspend the *Règles Internationales de la Nomenclature Zoologique* as applied to any given case where, in the judgment of the Commission, the strict application of the *Règles* would clearly result in greater confusion than uniformity, provided either that after due advertisement of the possible suspension of the *Règles* as applied to the said case the members of the Commission were unanimously in favour of that course or that, in default of unanimity, a Board of Three Members duly constituted in accordance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Resolution of March 1913 referred to above (hereinafter referred to as the "Plenary Powers Resolution"), acting for the said

¹⁰ See footnote 4.

International Commission, decided, either unanimously or by a majority, in favour of the suspension of the *Règles* as applied to the case so referred to it for decision; and

WHEREAS the suspension of the *Règles* is required to give valid force to the provisions of the present *Opinion* as set out in the summary thereof; and

WHEREAS in default of unanimity regarding the decision to be taken as respects the names dealt with in the present *Opinion*, the International Commission agreed unanimously at their Session held at Lisbon in 1935 that this case should be decided by a Board of Three Members constituted in accordance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Plenary Powers Resolution; and

WHEREAS the Board of Three Members duly constituted to consider this case has agreed that an *Opinion* should be rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in the sense of the present *Opinion* :

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, acting in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon me in that behalf by reason of holding the said Office of Secretary to the International Commission, hereby announce the said *Opinion* on behalf of the International Commission, acting for the International Congress of Zoology, and direct that it be rendered and printed as *Opinion* Number One Hundred and Ninety Four (*Opinion* 194) of the said Commission.

In faith whereof I, FRANCIS HEMMING, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, have signed the present *Opinion*.

DONE in London, this twenty-ninth day of October, Nineteen Hundred and Forty-Five, in a single copy, which shall remain deposited in the archives of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING.

THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

(obtainable at the Publications Office of the International Trust for Zoological Nomenclature at 41, Queen's Gate, London, S.W. 7.)

Opinions and Declarations Rendered by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

The above work is being published in three volumes concurrently, namely :—

Volume 1. This volume will contain *Declarations* 1–9 (which have never previously been published) and *Opinions* 1–133 (the original issue of which is now out of print). In order that the volume, when bound, may be of a convenient size for handling, it has been decided to divide it into a series of Sections, which will be continuously paged but will each be supplied with a title page and index. It is at present contemplated that the first of these Sections (Section A) will comprise *Declarations* 1–9 and *Opinions* 1–16. Part 17 containing the index and title page for Section A will be published as soon as possible. The publication of Parts of Section B will be started immediately thereafter.

Parts 1–25 (comprising *Declarations* 1–9 and *Opinions* 1–16) have now been published. Further Parts are in the press and will be published as soon as possible.

Volume 2. This volume will contain *Declarations* 10–12 and *Opinions* 134–181 and will thus be a complete record of all the decisions taken by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature at their meeting held at Lisbon in 1935. This volume will be published in two Sections, which will be continuously paged but will each be supplied with a title page and index.

Section A, comprising *Declarations* 10–12 and *Opinions* 134–160 (published in Parts 1–30 and 30 A), is now complete, price £4 4s. 0d. Individual Parts of this Section are also obtainable separately at the prices at which they were originally published.

Section B will comprise *Opinions* 161–181 (to be published in Parts 31–52). Parts 31–51 (containing *Opinions* 161–181) have now been published and it is hoped that Part 52 containing the index and title page will be issued at an early date.

Volume 3. This volume, which commenced with *Opinion 182*, will contain the first instalment of the *Opinions* adopted by the International Commission since their Lisbon meeting. Parts 1-13 (containing *Opinions 182-194*) have now been published. Further Parts will be published as soon as possible.

Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature.

This journal was established by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in 1943 as their Official Organ in order to provide a medium for the publication of :—

- (a) proposals on zoological nomenclature submitted to the International Commission for deliberation and decision ;
- (b) comments received from, and correspondence by the Secretary with, zoologists on proposals published in the *Bulletin* under (a) above ; and
- (c) papers on nomenclatorial implications of developments in taxonomic theory and practice.

Parts 1-10 of volume 1 have now been published. Further Parts are in the press and will be published as soon as possible.

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